

## SUMMARY, RAMIFICATIONS, AND SCOPE

Accordingly, the reader will see that the umbrella support device of this invention can be easily  
5 installed, that it can be economically produced and marketed. Since it is supported in front of the operator  
rather than behind, such as those similar to Diaz, U.S. Pat. No. 6,105,594, it allows him or her to control  
the position of the umbrella easily without having to turn around. Furthermore, it can be quickly removed  
when desired.

Although the description above contains many specifications, these should not be construed as  
10 limiting the scope of the invention but as merely providing illustrations of some of the presently preferred  
embodiments of this invention. For example, the offset frame could be molded as a single unit, the pivoting  
assembly could be of a friction design , etc.

Thus the scope of the invention should be determined by the appended claims and their legal  
equivalents, rather than by the examples given.

We claim:

1. An umbrella support device for mounting in front of the operator's seat of a lever steering type  
20 riding lawnmower, comprising:

an offset frame, the lower end of the offset frame mounted on the mower's structure mesial said  
operator's legs and below said operator's seat, said offset frame configured to clear said operator's hands  
when moving the steering levers, the upper end of said offset frame configured to receive the lower end of  
an umbrella's shaft.

2. An umbrella support device as defined in claim 1, wherein said lower end of said offset frame is  
25 pivotally mounted to said mower's structure allowing said operator to pivot the umbrella forward and aft.

3. An umbrella support device as defined in claim 2, further including pivoting means and locking  
means to secure said offset frame in a desired position.

4. An umbrella support device as defined in claim 3, wherein the locking means may include ball  
30 and spring plungers, detents, friction assemblies, and the like.

5. An umbrella support device as defined in claim 1, wherein the upper end of said offset frame is  
configured to rotationally receive the lower end of the umbrella's shaft.

6. An umbrella support device as defined in claim 5, further including spindle means mounted on the lower end of said umbrella's shaft, the spindle means provides for rotation in said upper end of said offset frame and for vertical adjustment when said offset frame is in a vertical position.

5 7. An umbrella support device as defined in claim 1, further including an umbrella.

8. An umbrella support device for mounting in front of the operator's seat of a lever steering type riding lawnmower, comprising:

an offset frame, the lower end of the offset frame pivotally mounted on the mower's structure mesial the operator's legs and below said operator's seat, allowing said operator to lower a mounted umbrella by pushing it forward and to raise it to a vertical position by pulling it aft, said offset frame  
10 configured to clear said operator's hands when moving the steering levers, the upper end of said offset frame configured to rotationally receive the lower end of an umbrella's shaft, the lower end of the umbrella shaft mounted in spindle means providing for rotation and for vertical adjustment in said upper end of said offset frame, and an umbrella.

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